

Managerial Competencies to Enhance Iran's Higher Education Performance (A Thematic Analysis)

Maryam Beigi Rizi

Postdoc Scholar at the University of Glasgow, Scotland

Alireza Beigi Rizi

Quality Assurance Manager, Payam Persa Teaching Institute, Iran

Abstract:

This study explores managerial competencies to enhance higher education (HE) performance in Iran, a topic that has warranted focused attention. The authors conducted a qualitative review of articles that focus on managerial competencies in HE published between 2013 and 2023. We employed purposive sampling, and 134 titles selected. Thematic analysis was conducted on these articles, resulting in the identification of 100 initial items. We evaluated the content validity of these themes using both qualitative methods (based on opinions from 15 management experts) and quantitative methods (Content Validity Ratio (CVR)), and estimated reliability at 0.85 using the Holsti coefficient. Following that, a thematic network was constructed, comprising 3 global themes ('Excellence-driven,' 'Trailblazer,' 'Value Creator'), 9 organizing themes, and 29 basic themes. Managerial competencies are crucial to instill a culture of continuous improvement, innovation, and strategic value creation within HE. By emphasizing these global themes, leaders can drive excellence, pioneer transformative initiatives, and foster a dynamic environment that prioritizes quality education and societal impact, ultimately elevating the overall performance and reputation of higher education in Iran.

Keywords:

Excellence-driven, Higher education, Managerial Competencies, Trailblazer, Value Creator.